

ever, the kegs being made by machinery which is capable of turning out 400 a day. While we were present two or three cordwood sticks were placed on a guage and sawed into the requisite lengths by a circular saw—then taken to two cylindrical saws, and cut into properly-shaped staves. A lad placed the staves together, forming a keg, and fastened either end with a strong iron hoop—then submitted it to the action of another machine, which planed the external surface and prepared the ends for the reception of the heads, which were being turned from a piece of rough board. All this was done in less time than we have taken to describe it. The iron hoops were then slackened, the heads inserted, and the iron hoops replaced with *wooden* ones. A smart lad will hoop 80 of these kegs in a day—so it will be seen that the female portion of the community is still a great way behind the times in the *hoop* movement.

An examination of the *empty* kegs brought the fact vividly to our mind that it was a very long time since we breakfasted; and as we had now gone through our peregrinations, we were desirous of being enabled to contrast *feelingly* the difference between the powerful effects of roast beef and plum pudding in building up, with the destructive tendency of the powerful agent, whose manufacture we had been witnessing, to knock down. Our anxiety was soon quieted by our attentive guide inviting us to a sumptuous repast which fully justified his reputation for hospitality and good taste.

The powder manufactured in this establishment is of very superior character; and it is only necessary that it become a little more known to ensure the company a business unequalled for extent in this line by any firm on the continent, or perhaps in the world. The great difficulties which establishments like this have to contend against at their commencement, are prejudice and ignorance. It requires a little sacrifice of means, and also perseverance to vanquish these barriers by pushing the stock into the market and scheming so as to have its quality tested by the public, to command patronage. The Canada Powder Company have succeeded in forcing their stock into the market in spite of opposition of the most disheartening character; and their present position and future prospect are brilliant and encouraging. — *Hamilton Spectator*.

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### GERMAN IRON MANUFACTURES.

The increase in the production and manufacture of iron in Germany, within the last few years, says the *Augsburg Allgemeine Zeitung*, is remarkable. In Prussian Westphalia alone no less than sixteen mining and smelting companies have been formed since 1848—twelve of them since 1854. In 1853 this province produced but 603,525 cwt. pig iron, and 118,064 cwt. cast-iron ware, while in 1854 the product was 709,110 cwt. pig iron, and 332,061 cwt. cast-iron ware, showing an increase of 73 per cent. in one year. In 1855 the some province produced 1,513,039 cwt. pig iron and 1,126,025 cwt. bar iron.

The product of iron ore in all Prussia in 1853 was 1,496,516 tons, and in 1854, 2,144,149 tons: increase, 647,633 tons. The product of all the furnaces in the kingdom of Saxony in 1852 was 168,175 cwt; in 1853, 170,637 cwt. Bavaria produced, in 1850, 668,167 cwt; in 1853 1,074,317 cwt.